

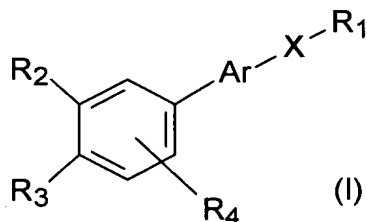
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-32 (Canceled).

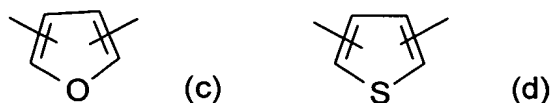
33. (Previously Presented) A bicyclic aromatic compound, having the general formula (I):



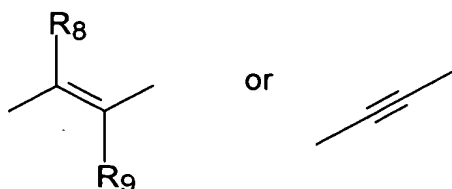
wherein,

- R₁ represents:
- (i) the -CH₃ radical;
 - (ii) the radical -CH₂OR₅; or
 - (iii) the radical -COR₆;

Ar is a radical of the formula (c) or (d):



- X represents



R₂ and R₃, which may be identical or different, represent

- (i) a hydrogen atom;
- (ii) an alkyl radical having at least 3 carbon atoms, among which the carbon attached to the phenyl radical is substituted with at least two carbon atoms;
- (iii) a radical -OR₅;
- (iv) a radical -SR₅; or

R₂ and R₃, taken together, form with the adjacent aromatic ring a 5- or 6-membered ring optionally substituted with methyl groups and/or optionally interrupted by an oxygen or sulphur atom,

with the proviso that:

R₂ and R₃ cannot both be hydrogen;

R₂ and R₃ cannot both be a radical -OR₅;

R₂ and R₃ cannot both be a radical -SR₅;

when R₂ is hydrogen, R₃ cannot be a radical -OR₅ or a radical -SR₅;

when R₂ is a radical -OR₅, R₃ cannot be hydrogen or a radical -SR₅;

when R₂ is a radical -SR₅, R₃ cannot be a radical -OR₅ or hydrogen;

when R_3 is hydrogen, R_2 cannot be a radical $-OR_5$ or a radical $-SR_5$;

when R_3 is a radical $-OR_5$, R_2 cannot be hydrogen or a radical $-SR_5$;

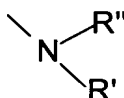
when R_3 is a radical $-SR_5$, R_2 cannot be a radical $-OR_5$ or hydrogen;

R_4 and R_7 , which may be identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms or a radical $-OR_5$,

R_5 represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl radical or a radical $-COR_{10}$

R_6 represents:

- (a) a hydrogen atom;
- (b) a lower alkyl radical;
- (c) a radical of formula:



or (d) a radical $-OR_{11}$

- R_8 and R_9 , which may be identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom or a lower alkyl radical,

- R_{10} represents a lower alkyl radical,

- R_{11} represents a hydrogen atom, a linear or branched alkyl radical having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and alkenyl radical, a mono- or polyhydroxyalkyl radical, an optionally substituted aryl or aralkyl radical, a sugar residue or an amino acid or peptide residue,

- R' and R'' , which may be identical or different, represent a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl radical, a mono- or polyhydroxyalkyl radical, an optionally substituted aryl

radical or an amino acid or sugar residue, or alternatively, taken together form a heterocycle,

a salt thereof or an optical or geometrical isomer thereof.

34. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 33, selected from the group consisting of alkali metals, alkaline-earth metals, zinc salts and organic amine salts.

35. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 33, selected from the group consisting of:

5-(3-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-thiopheneacrylic acid,

5-(3-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-thiophenepropiolic acid,

2-(3-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-thiopheneacrylic acid,

4-(3-tert-butyl-4-methoxyphenyl)-2-thiopheneacrylic acid,

5-(3,5,5,8,8-pentamethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthyl)-2-thiopheneacrylic acid,

4-(3,5,5,8,8-pentamethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthyl)-2-thiopheneacrylic acid,

4-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-5,5,8,8-tetramethyl-2-naphthyl)-2-thiopheneacrylic acid, and

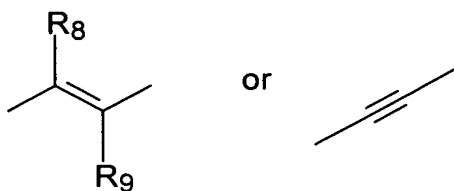
5-(3,5,5,8,8-pentamethyl-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthyl)-2-thiophenepropiolic acid.

36. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 33, having at least one of the following groups:

R_1 represents the radical $-COR_6$;

Ar represents a radical of formula (d);

X represents the radical:



R_2 and R_3 , taken together, form with the adjacent aromatic ring a 5- or 6-membered ring, optionally substituted with methyl groups and/or optionally interrupted by an oxygen or sulfur atom.

37. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 33, wherein Ar is a radical of formula (d).

38. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound according to Claim 32 in a pharmaceutically acceptable support.

39. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 38, wherein the concentration of the at least one compound is between 0.002% and 5% by weight of the pharmaceutical composition.

40. (Previously Presented) A cosmetic composition comprising at least one compound according to Claim 33 in a cosmetically acceptable support.

41. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 40, wherein the concentration of the at least one compound is between 0.002% and 5% by weight of the cosmetic composition.

42. (Previously Presented) The composition of Claim 40, wherein the composition is suitable for body or hair hygiene.

43. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 33, wherein R_2 and R_3 , taken together form with the adjacent aromatic ring a 6-membered ring substituted with methyl groups and being interrupted by an oxygen or sulfur atom.

44. (Previously Presented) A compound according to Claim 33, wherein R' and R'' taken together form a heterocycle.

Claims 45.-52. (Canceled)